

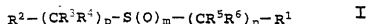
1. A method of treating a viral infection in a subject, said method comprising treating the subject with a therapeutically effective amount of a sulfur-containing (H<sup>+</sup>/K<sup>+</sup>)ATPase inhibitor.

3. The method of Claim 1 wherein the subject is infected with a DNA virus.

5. A method of treating viral infection in a subject, said method comprising treating the subject with an effective amount of a compound which inhibits an (H<sup>+</sup>/K<sup>+</sup>)ATPase and a viral protease.

6. A method of treating viral infection in a subject, said method comprising treating said subject with an effective amount of a compound of Formula I

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wherein  $R^1$  is selected from alkoxy, alkoxy carbonyl, dialkylamino, aryl and heteroaryl, wherein  $R^1$  is optionally substituted at a substitutable position with one or more radicals selected from alkoxy, aminoalkoxy optionally substituted on the nitrogen atom with alkyl, cycloalkyl, and aralkyl, hydroxyl, cyano, nitro, alkyl, halo, haloalkyl, haloalkoxy, alkanoyl, cycloalkylalkoxy, carboxyl, acyl, amide, alkylamide, aralkoxy, alkenyloxy, alkynyloxy, sulfonamidyl, dialkylsulfonamidyl, heterocyclic, aralkyl, heteroaralkyl, alkoxy carbonyl, heteroaryl, alkylthio, alkylsulfanyl, alkylsulfonyl, alkenylthio, arylthio, aralkylthio, cycloalkylthio, alkylimino and amino optionally substituted with a radical selected from alkyl, aralkyl, aryl, alkenyl, alkynyl, cycloalkyl, acyl, cycloalkenyl, hydroxyalkyl, alkoxy carbonyl and alkoxyalkyl;

wherein  $R^2$  is heteroaryl, wherein  $R^2$  is optionally substituted at a substitutable position with one or more radicals selected from alkoxy, amino, cyano, nitro, hydroxyl, alkyl, cycloalkyl, halo, haloalkyl, haloalkoxy, carboxyl, alkanoyl, acyl, alkylamino, arylamino, alkylarylamino, alkanoylamino, alkylaminoalkyl, amide, alkylamide, alkoxy carbonyl, aryloxy carbonyl, aralkoxy carbonyl, alkyl carbonyl, cycloalkyl carbonyl, alkyl carbonylalkyl, alkoxy carbonylalkyl, dialkyl carbamoyl, carbamoyloxy, aryloxy, aralkoxy, alkenyloxy, alkynyloxy, acyloxy, cycloalkylalkoxy,

aralkyl, aryl, aroyl, alkoxyalkyl, hydroxyalkyl, heterocyclic, heteroaralkyl, alkylthio, alkylsulfinyl, alkylsulfonyl, arylthio, arylsulfinyl, alkylsulfonyl, sulfonamidyl and

5 alkylsulfonamidyl;

wherein each of  $R^3$ ,  $R^4$ ,  $R^5$  and  $R^6$  is independently selected from hydrido, alkyl, aryl and aralkyl; and

wherein each of m, n and p is a number  
10 independently selected from 0, 1 and 2;

provided that when  $R^1$  is phenyl,  $R^2$  is not pyridyl or 1-( $\beta$ -D-ribofuranosyl)benzimidazole when m is 0 or 2;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or  
15 prodrug thereof.

7. Method of Claim 6 wherein  $R^1$  is selected from lower alkoxy, lower alkoxy carbonyl, lower dialkylamino, phenyl, naphthyl, thiazolyl, thiazolinyl, thiadiazolyl, oxazolyl, isoxazolyl, pyrazolyl, imidazolyl, imidazoliny, pyridyl, quinolyl, dihydroquinolyl, tetrahydroquinolyl, isoquinolyl, azaquinolyl, azaisoquinolyl, tetrahydroisoquinolyl, thiatetrahydroisoquinolyl, imidazopyridyl, azachromanyl, cycloheptenopyridine, benzimidazolyl, benzothiazolyl, benzoxazinyl, pyridazinyl, purinyl, thienyl, furyl, azaimidazopyridyl, piperidinyl, thienopyridinyl, dihydrothienopyridinyl, carbostyryl, pyrimidyl and  
20 pyrazinyl, wherein  $R^1$  is optionally substituted at a substitutable position with one or more radicals selected from lower alkoxy, lower aminoalkoxy optionally substituted on the nitrogen atom with lower alkyl, lower cycloalkyl and lower aralkyl, cyano, nitro, hydroxyl, lower alkyl, halo, lower  
35 haloalkyl, lower haloalkoxy, lower cycloalkylalkoxy, carboxyl, acyl, lower alkanoyl,

- amide, lower alkylamide, lower aralkoxy, lower alkenyloxy, lower alkynyloxy, sulfonamidyl, lower dialkylsulfonamidyl, 5 to 20 membered heterocyclic, lower aralkyl, lower heteroaralkyl, lower
- 5 alkoxycarbonyl, 5 to 8 membered heteroaryl, lower alkylthio, lower alkylsulfinyl, lower alkylsulfonyl, lower alkenylthio, lower arylthio, lower aralkylthio, lower cycloalkylthio, lower alkylimino and amino optionally substituted with a
- 10 radical selected from lower alkyl, lower aralkyl, phenyl, lower alkenyl, lower alkynyl, lower cycloalkyl, acyl, lower cycloalkenyl, lower hydroxyalkyl, lower alkoxycarbonyl and lower alkoxyalkyl; wherein  $R^2$  is selected from nitrogen-containing heteroaryl, wherein  $R^2$  is optionally
- 15 substituted at a substitutable position with one or more radicals selected from lower alkoxy, amino, cyano, nitro, hydroxyl, lower alkyl, lower cycloalkyl, halo, lower haloalkyl, lower
- 20 haloalkoxy, carboxyl, lower alkanoyl, acyl, lower alkylamino, lower arylamino, lower alkylarylamino, lower alkanoylamino, lower alkylaminoalkyl, amide, lower alkylamide, lower alkoxycarbonyl, lower aryloxy carbonyl, lower aralkoxy carbonyl, lower
- 25 alkylcarbonyl, lower cycloalkylcarbonyl, lower alkylcarbonylalkyl, lower alkoxycarbonylalkyl, lower dialkylcarbonyl, carbamoyloxy, lower aryloxy, lower aralkoxy, lower alkenyloxy, lower alkynyloxy, acyloxy, lower cycloalkylalkoxy, lower
- 30 aralkyl, optionally substituted lower aryl, lower aroyl, lower alkoxyalkyl, lower hydroxyalkyl, 5 to 20 membered heterocyclic, lower heteroaralkyl, lower alkylthio, lower alkylsulfinyl, lower alkylsulfonyl, lower arylthio, lower arylsulfinyl,
- 35 lower arylsulfonyl, sulfonamidyl and lower alkylsulfonamidyl; and wherein each of  $R^3$ ,  $R^4$ ,  $R^5$  and  $R^6$  is independently selected from hydrido,

lower alkyl, phenyl, naphthyl and lower aralkyl; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

8. Method of Claim 7 wherein  $R^1$  is
- 5 selected from phenyl, naphthyl, thiazolyl, thiazolinyl, thiadiazolyl, oxazolyl, isoxazolyl, pyrazolyl, imidazolyl, imidazolinyl, pyridyl, quinolyl, dihydroquinolyl, tetrahydroquinolyl, isoquinolyl, azaquinolyl, azaisoquinolyl,
  - 10 tetrahydroisoquinolyl, thiatetrahydroisoquinolyl, imidazopyridyl, azachromanyl, cycloheptenopyridine, benzimidazolyl, benzothiazolyl, benzoxazinyl, pyridazinyl, purinyl, thienyl, furyl, azaimidazopyridyl, piperidinyl, thienopyridinyl,
  - 15 dihydrothienopyridinyl, carbostyryl, pyrimidyl and pyrazinyl, wherein  $R^1$  is optionally substituted at a substitutable position with one or more radicals selected from methoxy, ethoxy, propoxy, butoxy, isopropoxy, tert-butoxy, aminomethoxy optionally
  - 20 substituted on the nitrogen atom with methyl, ethyl, propyl, butyl, pentyl, isopropyl, isobutyl, tert-butyl, cyclohexyl, cyclopropyl and benzyl, hydroxyl, amino optionally substituted with a radical selected from methyl, ethyl, propyl, butyl,
  - 25 pentyl, isopropyl, isobutyl, tert-butyl, benzyl, phenethyl, phenyl, butene, pentene, isopropylene, isobutylene, propargyl, cyclopropyl, cyclobutyl, cyclopentyl, cyclohexyl, formyl, acetyl, cyclobutenyl, cyclopentenyl, cyclohexenyl,
  - 30 hydroxymethyl, methoxycarbonyl, ethoxycarbonyl, isopropoxycarbonyl, tert-butoxycarbonyl, propoxycarbonyl, n-butoxycarbonyl, isobutoxycarbonyl, pentoxycarbonyl, and methoxymethyl, cyano, nitro, methyl, ethyl, propyl,
  - 35 butyl, pentyl, isopropyl, isobutyl, tert-butyl, fluoro, chloro, bromo, iodo, fluoromethyl, difluoromethyl, trifluoromethyl, dichloromethyl,

- trichloromethyl, pentafluoroethyl,  
heptafluoropropyl, difluorochloromethyl,  
dichlorofluoromethyl, difluoroethyl,  
difluoropropyl, dichloroethyl, dichloropropyl,  
5 trifluoromethoxy, cyclohexylmethoxy, carboxyl,  
formyl, acetyl, propionyl, amide, methylamide,  
dimethylamide, benzyloxy, sulfonamidyl,  
dimethylsulfonamidyl, morpholinyl, pyrrolidinyl,  
piperazinyl, piperidyl, benzyl, methoxycarbonyl,  
10 ethoxycarbonyl, pyridyl, methylthio,  
methylsulfanyl, methylsulfonyl, phenylthio,  
benzylthio, cyclohexylthio and methylimino; wherein  
R<sup>2</sup> is selected from pyridyl, indolyl, imidazolyl,  
benzimidazolyl, naphthoimidazolyl, 1,3-  
15 dioxolobenximidazolyl, imidazopyridyl,  
imidazoquinolinyl, dihydroimidazoquinolinyl,  
cycloheptoimidazolyl,  
cycloxaundecanobenzimidazolyl, benzoxazolyl,  
benzothiazolyl, indolyl, thienoimidazolyl,  
20 pyridopyrazinyl, quinolinyl, quinoxalinyl,  
quinazolinyl, quinazolinonyl, triazolyl,  
tetrazolyl, oxazolyl, purinyl, indenoimidazolyl,  
thiadiazolyl, thiazolylpyridyl, pyridyl,  
pyrimidinyl, pyranobenzimidazolyl,  
25 thiopyranbenzimidazolyl, indolbenzimidazole,  
tetrahydroimidazoquinolinyl, wherein R<sup>2</sup> is  
optionally substituted at a substitutable position  
with one or more radicals selected from methoxy,  
ethoxy, propoxy, butoxy, isopropoxy, tert-butoxy,  
30 amino, cyano, nitro, hydroxyl, methyl, ethyl,  
propyl, butyl, pentyl, isopropyl, isobutyl, tert-  
butyl, cyclohexyl, cyclopropyl, cyclobutyl, fluoro,  
chloro, bromo, iodo, fluoromethyl, difluoromethyl,  
trifluoromethyl, dichloromethyl, trichloromethyl,  
35 pentafluoroethyl, heptafluoropropyl,  
difluorochloromethyl, dichlorofluoromethyl,  
difluoroethyl, difluoropropyl, dichloroethyl,

- dichloropropyl, trifluoromethoxy, trifluoroethoxy, carboxyl, formyl, acetyl, propionyl, butyryl, N-methylamino, N-ethylamino, N-propylamino, N-butylamino, N-tert-butylamino, N-pentylamino, N-hexylamino, N,N-dimethylamino, phenylamino, N-methyl-N-phenylamino, methylaminomethyl, amide, N-methylamide, N,N-dimethylamide, methoxycarbonyl, ethoxycarbonyl, isopropoxycarbonyl, tert-butoxycarbonyl, propoxycarbonyl, n-butoxycarbonyl, isobutoxycarbonyl, pentoxycarbonyl, phenoxycarbonyl, benzyloxycarbonyl, methylcarbonyl, cyclohexylcarbonyl, methylcarbonylmethyl, methoxycarbonylmethyl, N,N-dimethylcarbamoyl, carbamoyloxy, phenoxy, benzoxy, benzyl, phenethyl, phenyl, benzoyl, methoxymethyl, hydroxymethyl, morpholinyl, pyrrolidinyl, piperazinyl, piperidyl, methylthio, ethylthio, methylsulfinyl, ethylsulfinyl, methylsulfonyl, phenylthio, phenylsulfinyl, phenylsulfonyl, sulfonamidyl, methylsulfonamidyl and N,N-dimethylsulfonamidyl; and wherein each of R<sup>3</sup>, R<sup>4</sup>, R<sup>5</sup> and R<sup>6</sup> is independently selected from hydrido, methyl, ethyl, propyl, butyl, pentyl, isopropyl, isobutyl, tert-butyl, phenyl and benzyl; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

9. Method of Claim 8 selected from compounds, and their pharmaceutically acceptable salts, of the group selected from:

- [2-[(2-N-isobutyl-N-methylamino)-benzyl]sulfinyl]-1H-benzimidazole;  
 2-[(3-methylpyridin-2-ylmethyl)sulfinyl]-1H-benzimidazole;  
 2-[(imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-3-ylmethyl)sulfinyl]-1H-benzimidazole;

- 2-[(imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-3-ylmethyl)sulfinyl]-1H-benzimidazole;
- 2-[(imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-3-ylmethyl)sulfinyl]-5-methyl-1H-benzimidazole;
- 5 2-[(imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-3-ylmethyl)sulfinyl]-5-methoxy-1H-benzimidazole;
- 5-chloro-2-[(imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-3-ylmethyl)sulfinyl]-1H-benzimidazole;
- 2-[(imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-3-ylmethyl)sulfinyl]-5-trifluoromethyl-1H-benzimidazole;
- 10 2-[(imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-8-ylmethyl)sulfinyl]-1H-benzimidazole;
- 2-[(imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-8-ylmethyl)sulfinyl]-1H-benzimidazole;
- 15 2-[(imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-8-ylmethyl)sulfinyl]-5-methoxy-1H-benzimidazole;
- 5-ethoxy-2-[(imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-8-ylmethyl)sulfinyl]-1H-benzimidazole;
- 2-[(imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-8-ylmethyl)sulfinyl]-4-methyl-1H-benzimidazole;
- 20 2-[(imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-8-ylmethyl)sulfinyl]-5-methyl-1H-benzimidazole;
- 2-[(imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-8-ylmethyl)sulfinyl]-5,6-dimethyl-1H-benzimidazole;
- 25 2-[(imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-8-ylmethyl)sulfinyl]-5,6-dimethoxy-1H-benzimidazole;
- 5-chloro-2-[(imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-8-ylmethyl)sulfinyl]-1H-benzimidazole;
- 2-[(imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-8-ylmethyl)sulfinyl]-5-trifluoromethyl-1H-benzimidazole;
- 30 2-[(2,3-dimethylimidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-8-yl)methyl)sulfinyl]-1H-benzimidazole;
- 2-[(3-methylimidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-8-yl)methyl)sulfinyl]-1H-benzimidazole;
- 35 2-[(2-phenylimidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-8-yl)methyl)sulfinyl]-1H-benzimidazole;

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- 2-[[3-phenylimidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-8-yl)methyl]sulfinyl]-1H-benzimidazole;
- 2-[[3-(4-nitrophenyl)imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-8-yl)methyl]sulfinyl]-1H-benzimidazole;
- 5 2-[[[3-[3-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-8-yl)methyl]sulfinyl]-1H-benzimidazole;
- 5-methyl-2-[[[3-[3-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-8-yl)methyl]sulfinyl]-1H-benzimidazole;
- 10 5-chloro-2-[[[3-[3-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-8-yl)methyl]sulfinyl]-1H-benzimidazole;
- 2-[[[3-[4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-8-yl)methyl]sulfinyl]-1H-benzimidazole;
- 15 5-chloro-2-[[[3-[4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-8-yl)methyl]sulfinyl]-1H-benzimidazole;
- 20 4-[8-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)sulfinyl)methyl]imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-3-yl]benzoate;
- 2-[[[3-(4-chlorophenyl)imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-8-yl)methyl]sulfinyl]-1H-benzimidazole;
- 2-[[[3-(4-methylphenyl)imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-8-yl)methyl]sulfinyl]-1H-benzimidazole;
- 25 2-[(imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-5-ylmethyl)sulfinyl]-1H-benzimidazole;
- 2-[(n-butoxycarbonylmethyl)sulfinyl]thiazolo(5,4-b)pyridine;
- 30 5-chloro-2-[(2-ethoxyethyl)sulfinyl]benzothiazole;
- 4,6-dimethyl-2-(((imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-2-yl)methyl)thio)-1H-benzimidazole;
- 2-[3-methyl-4-(2-(N-benzyl-N-cyclohexylamino)-ethoxy)pyridyl]methylthio-1H-benzimidazole;
- 35 ethyl 2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)thiomethyl]-4-methyl-amino-5-pyrimidine carboxylate;
- 9-(benzimidazol-2-yl)sulfinyl-4-methoxy-2,3-

- cycloheptenopyridine;  
 2-(5-fluoro-2-(4-methoxy-2-pyridyl)-  
 phenylsulfinyl)-1H-benzimidazole;  
 5-difluoromethoxy-2-((3,4-dimethoxy-2-pyridinyl)  
 5 methylsulfinyl)-1H-benzimidazole;  
 2-((4-difluoromethoxy-3-methyl-2-pyridyl)  
 methylsulfinyl)benzimidazole;  
 2-[4(3-methoxypropoxy)-3-methylpyridine-2-yl]  
 methylsulfinyl-1H-imidazole;  
 10 2-((6-azachroman-5-ylmethyl)sulfinyl)-  
 benzimidazole;  
 5-carbomethoxy-6-methyl-2-((3,4-dimethoxy-2-  
 pyridinyl)methyl)sulfinyl-1H-benzimidazole;  
 5-carbomethoxy-6-methyl-2-((3,4-dimethoxy-2-  
 15 pyridinyl)methyl)sulfinyl)-1H-benzimidazol-1-  
 yl-methyl ethyl carbonate;  
 2-((3-methyl-4-(2,2,2-trifluoroethoxy)-2-pyridyl)  
 methylsulfinyl)benzimidazole;  
 4-fluoro-2-((4-methoxy-2-pyridinyl)methyl)  
 20 sulfinyl-1H-benzimidazol-1-yl-methyl-  
 ethylcarbonate;  
 2-[3-methyl-4-(1-benzyl-4-piperidyl)oxy-2-pyridyl]  
 methylthio-1H-benzimidazole;  
 2-(3-methyl-4-(2-(N-methyl-N-(4-methyl-benzyl)  
 25 amino)ethoxy)-2-pyridyl)methylsulfonyl-1H-  
 benzimidazole;  
 2-(4-methoxy-6-methyl-2-pyrimidinyl)methylthio-1H-  
 benzimidazole;  
 2-[2-[N-4-(3-fluorophenyl)-butyl-N-methyl]  
 30 aminoethyl]thio-(1H)-benzimidazole;  
 5-chloro-2-(3,4-dimethoxy-2-pyridylmethylsulfinyl)-  
 1H-benzimidazole;  
 5-fluoro-2-(4-cyclopropylmethoxy-2-pyridylmethyl-  
 sulfinyl)-1H-benzimidazole;  
 35 4-fluoro-2-(4-methoxy-2-pyridylmethylsulfinyl)-  
 1H-benzimidazole;  
 2-((4-methoxy-3,5-dimethyl-2-pyridinyl)-methyl)-

- sulfinyl)-5-methoxy-1H-benzimidazole;  
5-hydroxymethyl-2-((3,5-dimethyl-4-methoxy-2-pyridyl)methylthio)-1H-benzimidazole;  
2-(4-ethylthio-3-methylpyridin-2-yl-methyl)sulfinyl-benzimidazole;  
5 2-(((4-(2-benzyloxyethoxy)-3-methyl-2-pyridyl)methylthio)benzimidazole;  
2-[[2-[N-(2-hydroxyethyl)-N-methylamino]-5-methoxy]benzylsulfinyl]benzimidazole;  
10 2-[2-(3,5-dimethyl-4-ethoxy)pyridylmethylsulfinyl]-5-methoxy-imidazo(4,5-b)pyridine;  
2-(5-benzyl-4-chloro-6-methyl-2-pyrimidinyl)methylthio-1H-benzimidazole;  
2,2-difluoro-6-((5-benzyloxy-4-methoxy-2-pyridyl)methylthio)-5H-(1,3)-dioxolo(4,5-f)benzimidazole;  
15 5-carboethoxy-6-methyl-2-(((3-methyl-2-pyridyl)methyl)sulfinyl)-1H-benzimidazole;  
5-(2-benzimidazolylsulfinylmethyl)-3,4-dihydro-4-methyl-2H-1,4-benzoxazine;  
20 2-(3-methyl-4-(2-(N-benzyl-N-methylamino)ethoxy-2-pyridyl)methylsulfinyl)-1H-benzimidazole;  
2-(3-methyl-4-(2-(1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinolin-2-yl)-ethoxy)-2-pyridyl)methylsulfinyl)-1H-benzimidazole;  
25 2-[1-(3,5-dimethylpyrazolyl)]methylthiobenzimidazole;  
2-(3-chloro-4-methoxy-2-picolylthio)-5-methoxy-1H-benzimidazole;  
30 2-(4-(2-ethoxyethoxy)-3-methyl-2-pyridyl)methylsulfinyl)-1H-benzimidazole;  
2-(3-methylthieno(2,3-c)pyridin-7-yl)methylsulfinyl)-benzimidazole;  
2-(2-dimethylamino-5-methoxybenzylsulfinyl)-5-methoxy-benzimidazole;  
35 2-(2-dimethylamino-5-methylbenzylsulfinyl)-5-methoxybenzimidazole;

- 2-[4-(2,3,5-trimethylpyridylthio)-5-methoxybenzimidazole;
- 2-[(2-(4-chlorophenyl)-5-methylimidazol-4-yl)methylthio]benzimidazole;
- 5 2-(5-hydroxy-1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinylmethyl)-N,N-dimethylbenzenamine;
- 2-((6-methoxyisoquinolin-1-yl)methylsulfinyl)benzimidazole;
- 3-(5-methoxy-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)thiomethylcarbostyryl;
- 10 5-methoxy-2-(4-dimethylamino-5-fluoro-2-pyridylmethylsulfinyl)-1H-benzimidazole;
- 2-(2-dimethylaminobenzyl-sulfinyl)-5-cyclopropylmethoxybenzimidazole;
- 15 2-(3,5-dimethyl-2-pyridylmethylsulfinyl)-5-cyclopropylmethoxy-benzimidazole;
- 2-[2-(N-cyclohexyl-N-methylamino)benzylsulfonyl]benzimidazole;
- 8-(5-fluoro-6-methoxy-2-benzimidazolyl)sulfinylmethyl-1-ethyl-4-(N-methyl-N-allyl)amino-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroquinoline;
- 20 2-(2-benzyloxycarbonylaminobenzylthio)benzimidazole;
- 2-(2-benzimidazolylmethylthio)pyrimidine;
- 25 2-(2-dimethylaminobenzylsulfinyl)imidazo[4,5-b]-pyridine;
- 2-(2-pyridylmethylsulfinyl)quinoxaline;
- 2-methyl-3-(2-pyridylmethylsulfinyl)pyrido[2,3-b]pyrazine;
- 30 5-acetyl-2-((2-dimethylaminobenzyl)sulfinyl)benzimidazole;
- 2-((3,5-dimethyl-4-methoxy-2-pyridyl)methylsulfinyl)-5-fluoro-1H-benzimidazole;
- 2-(3-pyridylmethylthio)-5-methoxybenzimidazole;
- 35 2-(2-methylaminobenzylsulfinyl)benzimidazole;
- 5-methoxy-2-(2-dimethylaminobenzylsulfinyl)-1H-benzimidazole;

- 2-(3,4-dimethoxypyrid-2-ylmethylsulfinyl)-5-trifluoromethyl-benzimidazole;  
 5-methoxy-2-(4-piperidino-2-pyrimidinylmethylsulfinyl)-(1H)-benzimidazole;  
 5 2-[2-(4-benzyloxy)-pyridylmethylsulfinyl]benzimidazole;  
 4-allyloxy-8-(2-benzimidazolyl)thio-3-methyl-5,6,7,8-tetrahydroquinoline;  
 2-[2-(4-methoxy-5-n-pentyl)-pyridylmethylthio]benzimidazole;  
 10 2-(5-bromo-4-piperidino-2-pyridylmethylsulfinyl)-5-methoxy-(1H)-benzimidazole;  
 2-((3,5-dimethyl-4-morpholinopyrid-2-yl)methylsulfinyl)benzimidazole;  
 15 2-((2-pyridinylmethyl)sulfinyl)-1H-benzimidazole-1-methanol;  
 2-((3,4-dihydro-2H-thieno(3,2-c)pyridinylmethyl)thio)-1H-benzimidazole-1-methanol;  
 2-(4-isopropoxy-2-pyridyl)methylsulfinylbenzimidazole;  
 20 2-((4-fluorobenzyloxy-3-methyl-2-pyridyl)methylsulfinyl)benzimidazole;  
 2-(2-aminobenzylsulfinyl)-benzimidazole;  
 N,N-dimethyl-2-(1H-benzimidazol-2-yl-sulfinylmethyl)benzenamine;  
 25 2-[(4,5-dimethoxy-2-pyridyl)methylsulfinyl]-5-trifluoromethoxy-1H-benzimidazole;  
 2,2-difluoro-6-[(4,5-dimethoxy-2-pyridyl)methylthio]-5H-1,3-dioxolo-(4,5-f)benzimidazole;  
 30 2-((4-morpholinyl-3-ethylpyridin-2-ylmethyl)sulfinyl)-5-trifluoromethylbenzimidazole;  
 2-((4-methoxy-2-pyridyl)methylsulfinyl)-5-trifluoromethoxy-1H-benzimidazole;  
 35 5-cyclopropylcarbonyl-2-((4-methoxy-2-pyridyl)methyl-sulfinyl)-1H-benzimidazole;

- 2-[2-(3,5-dimethyl-4-methoxy)-pyridylmethyl  
sulfinyl]-(5-chloro)-benzimidazole;  
2-[2-(4,5-dimethyl)-pyridylmethylsulfinyl]-(5-  
acetyl-6-methyl)-benzimidazole;  
5 1-(p-chlorobenzoyl)-2-( $\beta$ -morpholinylmethyl-  
sulfinyl)benzimidazole;  
2,3-dihydro-2-(2-pyridyl)thiazolo[3,2-  
a]benzimidazole-1-oxide;  
2-[(2-pyridylmethyl)thio]-1H-naphth[2,3-  
d]imidazole;  
10 1,5,6,7-tetrahydro-2-(5-methyl-2-pyridyl-methyl)-  
thio]indeno(5,6-d)imidazole;  
4-methyl-2-(5-methyl-2-pyridyl-methylthio)-1H-  
naphtho(2,3-d)imidazole ;  
15 2,2-difluoro-6-(4-methoxy-2-pyridylmethylsulfinyl)-  
5H-1,3-dioxolo[4,5-f]benzimidazole;  
2-benzylthio-(4H)-imidazo(4,5,1-ij)quinoline;  
2-(2-chlorophenylmethylthio)-5,6-dihydro-(4H)-  
imidazo(4,5,1-ij)quinoline;  
20 5,6-dihydro-2-(2-pyridylmethylthio)-4H-  
imidazo(4,5,1-ij)quinoline;  
5,6-dihydro-2-(2-(3,5-dimethylpyridyl)  
methylsulfinyl)-4H-imidazo;  
5,7-dihydro-2-(((4-methoxy-3-methyl-2-pyridyl)  
methyl)sulfinyl)-5,5,7,7-tetramethylindeno  
25 (5,6-d)imidazol-6(1H)-one;  
2-(2-pyridylmethylthio)-6-isopropyl-  
cycloheptoimidazole;  
2-[2-(3,5-dimethyl)pyridylmethylsulfinyl]5-fluoro-  
30 benzoxazole;  
3-[(4-dimethylamino-2-pyridyl)methylthio]indole;  
5-methyl-2-(2-pyridylmethylthio-3H-thieno(2,3-d)  
imidazole;  
2-(2-(3,5-dimethyl-4-methoxy)pyridylmethylsulfinyl)  
35 -7-imidazo(4,5-b)pyridine;  
2-(2-pyridylmethylsulfinyl)quinoxaline;

- 2-[(2-pyridyl)methylsulfinyl]thieno[3,4-d]-  
imidazole;
- 2-(((3,5-dimethyl-4-methoxy-2-pyridyl)methyl)thio)-  
4,5-diphenyloxazole;
- 5 3,5-dimethyl-4-methoxy-6-(((5-phenyl-1,2,4-triazol-  
3-yl)-thio)methyl)pyridine;
- 2-(((3,5-dimethyl-4-methoxy-2-pyridyl)methyl)  
sulfinyl)-4,5-diphenylimidazole;
- 5-(((4,5-diphenyl-2-oxazolyl)sulfinyl)methyl)-2,2-  
10 dimethyl-8-methyl-4H-1,3-dioxino(4,5-c)  
pyridine;
- 5-(((3,5-dimethyl-4-methoxy-2-pyridyl)methyl)  
sulfinyl)-1-methyltetrazole;
- 6-benzoylamino-7-chloro-2-(((3,5-dimethyl-4-  
15 methoxy-2-pyridyl)-methyl)thio)benzothiazole;
- 2-[[[(3,5-dimethyl-4-methoxy-2-pyridyl)-methyl]thio]  
quinoline;
- 2-[2-(3,5-dimethyl)pyridylmethylsulfinyl]-5-  
methoxy-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridine;
- 20 5-(4,5-dihydro-2-oxazolyl)-2-(((3,5-dimethyl-4-  
methoxy-2-pyridyl)methylthio)-1H-  
benzimidazole;
- 2-(2-dimethylaminobenzylsulfinyl)-5-methoxyimidazo  
[4,5-b]-pyridine;
- 25 3-phenyl-2-(2-pyridylmethylsulfinyl)-4(3H)-  
quinazolinone;
- 4-amino-2-(2-pyridylmethylthio)quinazoline;
- 2-(4-morpholinyl-2-pyrimidinylmethylthio)  
thieno(3,4-d)imidazole;
- 30 8-[2'-(N,N-dimethylanily)methylthio]purine;
- 2-[2'-(N,N-dimethylanily)methylthio]thieno-(3,4-d)-  
imidazole;
- 2-(4-methoxy-2-picolinylthio)-1H-thieno[3,4-  
d]imidazole;
- 35 2-(2-pyridylmethyl)thio-8H-indeno(1,2-d)imidazole;
- 2-(4-methoxy-5-chloro-2-picolylthio)-1H-thieno(3,4-  
d)imidazole;

- 2-[2-(1-pyrrolidinyl)benzylthio]  
cycloheptoimidazole;
- 2-(2-acetylaminophenyl)methylthio  
cycloheptoimidazole;
- 5 2-amino-5-(2-(2-pyridyl)ethylthio)-1,3,4-  
thiadiazole;
- 2-gernaylthio-benzimidazole;
- 2-(2-chlorobenzylthio)-8,8-dimethyl-6-oxo-5,6,7,8-  
tetrahydro-3H-imidazo[4,5-g]quinoline;
- 10 8-(2-pyrimidinyl-sulfinyl)quinoline;
- 2-((3-methyl-2-pyridyl)methylsulfinyl)pyrano(2,3-f)  
benzimidazole;
- 2-[(2-isobutylamino)benzylsulfinyl]imidazole;
- ethyl 2-((1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)-sulfinylmethyl)-4-  
15 dimethylamino-5-pyrimidinecarboxylate;
- 2-((2-ethoxyethyl)sulfinyl)-4-(3-pyridyl)thiazole;
- 2-[2-(2-propynylamino)benzylsulfinyl]imidazole;
- 2-(2-(2-methoxyethylamino)benzylsulfinyl)imidazole;
- 1-(2-pyridyl)-2-(3-dimethylamino)benzylsulfinyl)  
20 imidazole;
- 2-(2-methylaminobenzylthio)-4,5,6,7-tetrahydro-1H-  
benzimidazole;
- 4,5-diphenyl-2-(2-pyridylmethyl)-thioimidazole;
- 4-phenyl-2-(2-pyridylmethyl)thioimidazole;
- 25 4,5-bis(4-methoxyphenyl)-2-(2-  
thienylthio)imidazole;
- 2-(3-chloro-2-pyridinylthiomethyl)-4,5-dihydro-1H-  
imidazole;
- 1-methyl-2-(2-pyrimidinylthiomethyl)-5-nitro-  
30 imidazole;
- 1-methyl-2-(2-pyridylsulfonylmethyl)-5-  
nitroimidazole;
- 1-methyl-2-(5-bromo-2-pyridylthiomethyl)-5-nitro-  
imidazole;
- 35 2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]  
benzenamine;



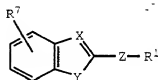
- 2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]N,N-dimethylbenzenamine;  
N-[2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]phenyl]acetamide;  
5 2-[(4-methyl-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)sulfinyl]methyl]benzenamine;  
2-[(5,6-dimethyl-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)sulfinyl]methyl]benzenamine;  
2-[(5-methoxy-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)sulfinyl]methyl]benzenamine;  
10 methyl 2-[(2-aminophenyl)methyl]sulfinyl]-5-methoxy-1H-benzimidazole-6-carboxylate;  
2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-4-chlorobenzenamine;  
15 2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-5-chlorobenzenamine;  
2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-4-methoxybenzenamine;  
2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-6-methoxybenzenamine;  
20 2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-3-methylbenzenamine;  
2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-4-methylbenzenamine;  
25 2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-6-methylbenzenamine;  
2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-4,6-dimethylbenzenamine;  
2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-N-methylbenzenamine;  
30 2-[(5-methoxy-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)sulfinyl]methyl]-4-methylbenzenamine;  
2-[(5-methoxy-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)sulfinyl]methyl]-6-methylbenzenamine;  
35 2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-4-ethylbenzenamine;

- 2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-6-ethylbenzenamine;
- 2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-4-methoxy-3,5-dimethylbenzenamine;
- 5 2-[(5-methyl-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)sulfinyl]-methylbenzenamine;
- 2-[(5-chloro-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)sulfinyl]-methylbenzenamine;
- 2-[(5-ethoxy-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)sulfinyl]-methylbenzenamine;
- 10 2-[[[(5-(trifluoromethyl)-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)sulfinyl]methyl]benzenamine;
- 2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-4-(trifluoromethyl)benzenamine;
- 15 2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-4-butylbenzenamine;
- 2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-5,6-dimethylbenzenamine;
- 2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-3,6-dimethylbenzenamine;
- 20 2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-4-chloro-6-methylbenzenamine;
- 2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-4-chloro-6-methoxy-3-methylbenzenamine;
- 25 2-[(5-ethoxy-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)sulfinyl]-methyl]-4-methylbenzenamine;
- 2-[(5-methyl-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)sulfinyl]-methyl]-5,6-dimethylbenzenamine;
- 2-[[[(5-(trifluoromethyl)-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)sulfinyl]-3,6-dimethylbenzenamine;
- 30 2-[[[(5-(trifluoromethyl)-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)sulfinyl]methyl]-6-methoxybenzenamine;
- methyl 2-amino-3-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]benzoate;
- 35 ethyl 4-amino-3-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]benzoate;

- ethyl 4-amino-3-[[ (5-methoxy-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)sulfinyl]methyl]benzoate;  
 2-[[ (5,6-dimethoxy-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)sulfinyl]methyl]-4-methylbenzenamine;  
 5 2-[[ (1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)sulfinyl]methyl]-4-fluorobenzenamine;  
 2-[[ (1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)sulfinyl]methyl]-3,4,5-trimethylbenzenamine;  
 2-[[ (5-methoxy-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)sulfinyl]methyl]-4-methoxy-3,5-dimethylbenzenamine;  
 10 3-[[ (1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)sulfinyl]methyl]benzenamine;  
 3-[[ (1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)sulfinyl]methyl]-2-pyridinamine;  
 15 3-[[ (1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)sulfinyl]methyl]-N,N-dimethyl-2-pyridinamine;  
 6-[[ (1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)sulfinyl]methyl]-2-pyridinamine;  
 6-[[ (4-methyl-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)-sulfinyl]methyl]-2-pyridinamine;  
 20 6-[[ (5-methyl-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)-sulfinyl]methyl]-2-pyridinamine;  
 6-[[ (5-methoxy-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)sulfinyl]methyl]-2-pyridinamine;  
 25 6-[[ (5-chloro-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)-sulfinyl]methyl]-2-pyridinamine;  
 6-[[ (5-(trifluoromethyl)-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)sulfinyl]methyl]-2-pyridinamine;  
 6-[[ (5-ethoxy-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)-sulfinyl]methyl]-2-pyridinamine;  
 30 6-[[ (5,6-dimethoxy-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)sulfinyl]methyl]-2-pyridinamine;  
 6-[[ (5,6-dimethyl-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)sulfinyl]methyl]-2-pyridinamine;  
 35 6-[[ (4,6-dimethyl-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)sulfinyl]methyl]-2-pyridinamine;

6-[[[5-(hydroxymethyl)-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl]sulfinyl]methyl]-2-pyridinamine;  
 6-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-N-(2,2-dimethylpropyl)-2-pyridinamine;  
 5 6-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-N-ethyl-2-pyridinamine; and  
 5-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-2-pyridinamine.

10 10. A method of treating viral infection in a subject, said method comprising treating said subject with an effective amount of a compound of Formula II



II

15

wherein X is selected from CH or N;  
 wherein Y is selected from CH<sub>2</sub>, NR<sup>8</sup>, O

and S;

20

wherein Z is selected from -S(O)<sub>m</sub><sup>-</sup>,  
 -(CR<sup>3</sup>R<sup>4</sup>)<sub>p</sub>S(O)<sub>m</sub><sup>-</sup> and -S(O)<sub>m</sub>(CR<sup>5</sup>R<sup>6</sup>)<sub>n</sub><sup>-</sup>;

wherein each of m, n and p is a number  
 independently selected from 0, 1 and 2;

25

wherein R<sup>1</sup> is selected from aryl and  
 heteroaryl, wherein R<sup>1</sup> is optionally substituted at  
 a substitutable position with one or more radicals  
 selected from alkoxy, aminoalkoxy optionally  
 substituted on the nitrogen atom with alkyl,  
 cycloalkyl and aralkyl, cyano, nitro, hydroxyl,  
 30 alkyl, halo, haloalkyl, haloalkoxy,  
 cycloalkylalkoxy, carboxyl, acyl, alkanoyl, amide,  
 alkylamide, aralkoxy, alkenyloxy, alkynyloxy,  
 sulfonamido, dialkylsulfonamido, heterocyclic,  
 aralkyl, heteroaralkyl, alkoxy carbonyl, heteroaryl,  
 35 alkylthio, alkylsulfinyl, alkylsulfonyl,

- alkenylthio, arylthio, aralkylthio, cycloalkylthio, alkylimino and amino optionally substituted with a radical selected from alkyl, aralkyl, aryl, alkenyl, alkynyl, cycloalkyl, acyl, cycloalkenyl, hydroxyalkyl, alkoxycarbonyl and alkoxyalkyl; wherein each of R<sup>3</sup>, R<sup>4</sup>, R<sup>5</sup> and R<sup>6</sup> is independently selected from hydrido, alkyl, aryl and aralkyl;
- wherein R<sup>7</sup> is one or more radicals selected from alkoxy, amino, cyano, nitro, hydroxyl, alkyl, cycloalkyl, halo, haloalkyl, haloalkoxy, carboxyl, alkanoyl, acyl, alkylamino, arylamino, alkylarylamino, alkanoylamino, alkylaminoalkyl, amide, alkylamide, alkoxycarbonyl, aryloxycarbonyl, aralkoxycarbonyl, alkylcarbonyl, cycloalkylcarbonyl, alkylcarbonylalkyl, alkoxycarbonylalkyl, dialkylcarbonyl, carbamoyloxy, aryloxy, aralkoxy, alkenyloxy, alkynyloxy, acyloxy, cycloalkylalkoxy, aralkyl, aryl, aroyl, alkoxyalkyl, hydroxyalkyl, heterocyclic, heteroaralkyl, alkylthio, alkylsulfinyl, alkylsulfonyl, arylthio, arylsulfinyl, alkylsulfonyl, sulfonamido and alkylsulfonamido; or wherein R<sup>5</sup> and R<sup>8</sup> taken together form a ring; and wherein R<sup>8</sup> is selected from hydrido, alkyl, alkenyl, hydroxyalkyl, acyl, alkoxyalkyl, aryl, aryloxyalkyl, alkylthioalkyl, aralkyl, alkoxycarbonyl, amide, alkanoyl, alkylcarbonyl and alkylsulfonyl; provided that when m is 0, R<sup>8</sup> is not 1-( $\beta$ -D-ribofuranosyl)benzimidazole; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.
11. Method of Claim 10 wherein R<sup>1</sup> is selected from phenyl, naphthyl, thiazolyl, thiazolinyl, thiadiazolyl, oxazolyl, isoxazolyl,

- pyrazolyl, imidazolyl, imidazoliny, pyridyl,  
quinolyl, dihydroquinolyl, tetrahydroquinolyl,  
isoquinolyl, azaquinolyl, azaisoquinolyl,  
tetrahydroisoquinolyl, thiatetrahydroisoquinolyl,  
5 imidazopyridyl, azachromanyl, cycloheptenopyridine,  
benzimidazolyl, benzothiazolyl, benzoxaziny,   
pyridaziny, puriny, thienyl, furyl,  
azaimidazopyridyl, piperidyl, thienopyridiny,  
dihydrothienopyridiny, carbostyryl, pyrimidyl and  
10 pyraziny, wherein R<sup>1</sup> is optionally substituted at  
a substitutable position with one or more radicals  
selected from lower alkoxy, lower aminoalkoxy  
optionally substituted on the nitrogen atom with  
lower alkyl, lower cycloalkyl and lower aralkyl,  
15 cyano, nitro, hydroxyl, lower alkyl, halo, lower  
haloalkyl, lower haloalkoxy, lower  
cycloalkylalkoxy, carboxyl, acyl, lower alkanoyl,  
amide, lower alkylamide, lower aralkoxy, lower  
alkenyloxy, lower alkynyloxy, sulfonamido, lower  
20 dialkylsulfonamido, 5 to 20 membered heterocyclic,  
lower aralkyl, lower heteroaralkyl, lower  
alkoxycarbonyl, 5 to 8 membered heteroaryl, lower  
alkylthio, lower alkylsulfinyl, lower  
alkylsulfonyl, lower alkenylthio, lower arylthio,  
25 lower aralkylthio, lower cycloalkylthio, lower  
alkylimino and amino optionally substituted with a  
radical selected from lower alkyl, lower aralkyl,  
phenyl, lower alkenyl, lower alkynyl, lower  
cycloalkyl, acyl, lower cycloalkenyl, lower  
30 hydroxyalkyl, lower alkoxycarbonyl and lower  
alkoxyalkyl, wherein each of R<sup>3</sup>, R<sup>4</sup>, R<sup>5</sup> and R<sup>6</sup> is  
independently selected from hydrido, lower alkyl,  
phenyl, naphthyl and lower aralkyl; wherein R<sup>7</sup> is  
one or more radicals selected from lower alkoxy,  
35 amino, cyano, nitro, hydroxyl, lower alkyl, lower  
cycloalkyl, halo, lower haloalkyl, lower  
haloalkoxy, carboxyl, lower alkanoyl, acyl, lower

alkylamino, lower arylamino, lower alkylarylamino,  
lower alkanoylamino, lower alkylaminoalkyl, amide,  
lower alkylamide, lower alkoxycarbonyl, lower  
aryloxy carbonyl, lower aralkoxycarbonyl, lower  
5 alkylcarbonyl, lower cycloalkylcarbonyl, lower  
alkylcarbonylalkyl, lower alkoxycarbonylalkyl,  
lower dialkylcarbamoyle, carbamoyleoxy, lower  
aryloxy, lower aralkoxy, lower alkenyloxy, lower  
alkynyloxy, acyloxy, lower cycloalkylalkoxy, lower  
10 aralkyl, optionally substituted lower aryl, lower  
aroyl, lower alkoxyalkyl, lower hydroxyalkyl, 5 to  
20 membered heterocyclic, lower heteroaralkyl,  
lower alkylthio, lower alkylsulfinyl, lower  
alkylsulfonyl, lower arylthio, lower arylsulfinyl,  
15 lower arylsulfonyl, sulfonamido and lower  
alkylsulfonamido; or wherein R<sup>5</sup> and R<sup>8</sup> taken  
together form a ring; and wherein R<sup>8</sup> is selected  
from hydrido, lower alkyl, lower alkenyl, lower  
hydroxyalkyl, acyl, lower alkoxyalkyl, phenyl,  
20 naphthyl, lower aryloxyalkyl, lower alkylthioalkyl,  
lower aralkyl, lower alkoxycarbonyl, amide, lower  
alkanoyl, lower alkylcarbamoyle and lower  
alkylsulfonyl; or a pharmaceutically acceptable  
salt thereof.

25

12. Method of Claim 11 wherein R<sup>1</sup> is  
optionally substituted at a substitutable position  
with one or more radicals selected from methoxy,  
ethoxy, propoxy, butoxy, isopropoxy, tert-butoxy,  
30 aminomethoxy optionally substituted on the nitrogen  
atom with methyl, ethyl, propyl, butyl, pentyl,  
isopropyl, isobutyl, tert-butyl, cyclohexyl,  
cyclopropyl and benzyl, amino optionally  
substituted with a radical selected from methyl,  
35 ethyl, propyl, butyl, pentyl, isopropyl, isobutyl,  
tert-butyl, benzyl, phenethyl, phenyl, butene,  
pentene, isopropylene, isobutylene, propargyl,

- cyclopropyl, cyclobutyl, cyclopentyl, cyclohexyl, formyl, acetyl, cyclobutenyl, cyclopentenyl, cyclohexenyl, hydroxymethyl, methoxycarbonyl, ethoxycarbonyl, isopropoxycarbonyl, tert-butoxycarbonyl, propoxycarbonyl, n-butoxycarbonyl, isobutoxycarbonyl, pentoxycarbonyl, and methoxymethyl, cyano, nitro, hydroxyl, methyl, ethyl, propyl, butyl, pentyl, isopropyl, isobutyl, tert-butyl, fluoro, chloro, bromo, iodo,
- 5 fluoromethyl, difluoromethyl, trifluoromethyl, dichloromethyl, trichloromethyl, pentafluoroethyl, heptafluoropropyl, difluorochloromethyl, dichlorofluoromethyl, difluoroethyl, difluoropropyl, dichloroethyl, dichloropropyl,
- 15 trifluoromethoxy, cyclohexylmethoxy, carboxyl, formyl, acetyl, propionyl, amide, methylamide, dimethylamide, benzyloxy, sulfonamido, dimethylsulfonamido, morpholinyl, pyrrolidinyl, piperazinyl, piperidyl, benzyl, methoxycarbonyl,
- 20 ethoxycarbonyl, pyridyl, methylthio, methylsulfinyl, methylsulfonyl, phenylthio, benzylthio, cyclohexylthio and methylimino; wherein each of R<sup>3</sup>, R<sup>4</sup>, R<sup>5</sup> and R<sup>6</sup> is independently selected from hydrido, methyl, ethyl, propyl,
- 25 butyl, pentyl, isopropyl, isobutyl, tert-butyl, phenyl and benzyl; wherein R<sup>7</sup> is one or more radicals selected from methoxy, ethoxy, propoxy, butoxy, isopropoxy, tert-butoxy, amino, cyano, nitro, hydroxyl, methyl, ethyl, propyl, butyl,
- 30 pentyl, isopropyl, isobutyl, tert-butyl, cyclohexyl, cyclopropyl, cyclobutyl, fluoro, chloro, bromo, iodo, fluoromethyl, difluoromethyl, trifluoromethyl, dichloromethyl, trichloromethyl, pentafluoroethyl, heptafluoropropyl,
- 35 difluorochloromethyl, dichlorofluoromethyl, difluoroethyl, difluoropropyl, dichloroethyl, dichloropropyl, trifluoromethoxy, trifluoroethoxy,



- carboxyl, formyl, acetyl, propionyl, butyryl, N-methylamino, N-ethylamino, N-propylamino, N-butylamino, N-tert-butylamino, N-pentylamino, N-hexylamino, N,N-dimethylamino, phenylamino, N-methy-N-phenylamino, methylaminomethyl, amide, N-methylamide, N,N-dimethylamide, methoxycarbonyl, ethoxycarbonyl, isopropoxycarbonyl, tert-butoxycarbonyl, propoxycarbonyl, n-butoxycarbonyl, isobutoxycarbonyl, pentoxycarbonyl,
- 10 phenoxycarbonyl, benzyloxycarbonyl, methylcarbonyl, cyclohexylcarbonyl, methylcarbonylmethyl, methoxycarbonylmethyl, N,N-dimethylcarbamoyl, carbamoyloxy, phenoxy, benzoxy, benzyl, phenethyl, phenyl, benzoyl, methoxymethyl, hydroxymethyl,
- 15 morpholinyl, pyrrolidinyl, piperazinyl, piperidyl, methylthio, ethylthio, methylsulfinyl, ethylsulfinyl, methylsulfonyl, phenylthio, phenylsulfinyl, phenylsulfonyl, sulfonamido, methylsulfonamido and N,N-dimethylsulfonamido; or
- 20 wherein R<sup>5</sup> and R<sup>8</sup> taken together form a ring; and wherein R<sup>8</sup> is selected from hydrido, methyl, ethyl, propyl, butyl, pentyl, isopropyl, isobutyl, tert-butyl, butene, pentene, isopropylene, isobutylene, hydroxymethyl, phenyl, naphthyl, phenoxymethyl,
- 25 methylthiomethyl, benzyl, phenethyl, methoxycarbonyl, ethoxycarbonyl, isopropoxycarbonyl, tert-butoxycarbonyl, propoxycarbonyl, n-butoxycarbonyl, isobutoxycarbonyl, pentoxycarbonyl, methoxymethyl,
- 30 amide, formyl, acetyl, propionyl, butyryl, methylcarbamoyl and methylsulfonyl; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

13. Method of Claim 12 selected from
- 35 compounds, and their pharmaceutically acceptable salts, of the group selected from:

- 2-[[3-methylpyridin-2-ylmethyl)sulfinyl]-1H-benzimidazole;
- 2-[(imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-3-ylmethyl)sulfinyl]-1H-benzimidazole;
- 5 2-[(imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-3-ylmethyl)sulfinyl]-1H-benzimidazole;
- 2-[(imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-3-ylmethyl)sulfinyl]-5-methyl-1H-benzimidazole;
- 2-[(imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-3-ylmethyl)sulfinyl]-5-methoxy-1H-benzimidazole;
- 10 5-chloro-2-[(imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-3-ylmethyl)sulfinyl]-1H-benzimidazole;
- 2-[(imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-3-ylmethyl)sulfinyl]-5-trifluoromethyl-1H-benzimidazole;
- 15 2-[(imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-8-ylmethyl)sulfinyl]-1H-benzimidazole;
- 2-[(imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-8-ylmethyl)sulfinyl]-1H-benzimidazole;
- 2-[(imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-8-ylmethyl)sulfinyl]-5-methoxy-1H-benzimidazole;
- 20 5-ethoxy-2-[(imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-8-ylmethyl)sulfinyl]-1H-benzimidazole;
- 2-[(imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-8-ylmethyl)sulfinyl]-4-methyl-1H-benzimidazole;
- 25 2-[(imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-8-ylmethyl)sulfinyl]-5-methyl-1H-benzimidazole;
- 2-[(imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-8-ylmethyl)sulfinyl]-5,6-dimethyl-1H-benzimidazole;
- 2-[(imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-8-ylmethyl)sulfinyl]-5,6-dimethoxy-1H-benzimidazole;
- 30 5-chloro-2-[(imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-8-ylmethyl)sulfinyl]-1H-benzimidazole;
- 2-[(imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-8-ylmethyl)sulfinyl]-5-trifluoromethyl-1H-benzimidazole;
- 35 2-[[2,3-dimethylimidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-8-yl)methyl)sulfinyl]-1H-benzimidazole;

- 2-[[ (3-methylimidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-8-yl)methyl]sulfinyl]-1H-benzimidazole;
- 2-[[ (2-phenylimidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-8-yl)methyl]sulfinyl]-1H-benzimidazole;
- 5 2-[[ (3-phenylimidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-8-yl)methyl]sulfinyl]-1H-benzimidazole;
- 2-[[ (3-(4-nitrophenyl)imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-8-yl)methyl]sulfinyl]-1H-benzimidazole;
- 2-[[ [3-[3-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-8-yl)methyl]sulfinyl]-1H-benzimidazole;
- 10 5-methyl-2-[[ [3-[3-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-8-yl)methyl]sulfinyl]-1H-benzimidazole;
- 15 5-chloro-2-[[ [3-[3-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-8-yl)methyl]sulfinyl]-1H-benzimidazole;
- 2-[[ [3-[4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-8-yl)methyl]sulfinyl]-1H-benzimidazole;
- 20 5-chloro-2-[[ [3-[4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-8-yl)methyl]sulfinyl]-1H-benzimidazole;
- 4-[8-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-3-yl]benzoate;
- 25 2-[[ [3-(4-chlorophenyl)imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-8-yl)methyl]sulfinyl]-1H-benzimidazole;
- 2-[[ [3-(4-methylphenyl)imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-8-yl)methyl]sulfinyl]-1H-benzimidazole;
- 30 2-[(imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-5-ylmethyl)sulfinyl]-1H-benzimidazole;
- 4,6-dimethyl-2-(((imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-2-yl)methyl)thio)-1H-benzimidazole;
- 2-[3-methyl-4-(2-(N-benzyl-N-cyclohexylamino)ethoxy)pyridyl]methylthio-1H-benzimidazole;
- 35 ethyl 2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)thiomethyl]-4-methyl-amino-5-pyrimidine carboxylate;

- 2-(5-fluoro-2-(4-methoxy-2-pyridyl)-  
phenylsulfinyl)-1H-benzimidazole;  
5-difluoromethoxy-2-((3,4-dimethoxy-2-pyridinyl)  
methyl)sulfinyl)-1H-benzimidazole;  
5 2-(((4-difluoromethoxy-3-methyl-2-pyridyl)  
methylsulfinyl)benzimidazole;  
2-((6-azachroman-5-ylmethyl)sulfinyl)-  
benzimidazole;  
5-carbomethoxy-6-methyl-2-((3,4-dimethoxy-2-  
pyridinyl)methyl)sulfinyl)-1H-benzimidazole;  
10 5-carbomethoxy-6-methyl-2-((3,4-dimethoxy-2-  
pyridinyl)methyl)sulfinyl)-1H-benzimidazol-1-  
yl-methyl ethyl carbonate;  
2-((3-methyl-4-(2,2,2-trifluoroethoxy)-2-pyridyl)  
methylsulfinyl)benzimidazole;  
15 4-fluoro-2-((4-methoxy-2-pyridinyl)methyl)  
sulfinyl)-1H-benzimidazol-1-yl-methyl-  
ethylcarbonate;  
2-[3-methyl-4-(1-benzyl-4-piperidyl)oxy-2-pyridyl]  
methylthio-1H-benzimidazole;  
20 2-(3-methyl-4-(2-(N-methyl-N-(4-methyl-benzyl)  
amino)ethoxy)-2-pyridyl)methylsulfonyl)-1H-  
benzimidazole;  
2-(4-methoxy-6-methyl-2-pyrimidinyl)methylthio-1H-  
benzimidazole;  
25 5-chloro-2-(3,4-dimethoxy-2-pyridylmethylsulfinyl)-  
1H-benzimidazole;  
5-fluoro-2-(4-cyclopropylmethoxy-2-pyridylmethyl-  
sulfinyl)-1H-benzimidazole;  
30 4-fluoro-2-(4-methoxy-2-pyridylmethylsulfinyl)-  
1H-benzimidazole;  
2-(((4-methoxy-3,5-dimethyl-2-pyridyl)-methyl)-  
sulfinyl)-5-methoxy-1H-benzimidazole;  
5-hydroxymethyl-2-((3,5-dimethyl-4-methoxy-2-  
pyridyl)methylthio-1H-benzimidazole;  
35 2-(4-ethylthio-3-methylpyrid-2-yl-methyl)sulfinyl-  
benzimidazole;

- 2-(((4-(2-benzyloxyethoxy)-3-methyl-2-pyridyl)  
methylthio)benzimidazole;
- 2-[[2-[N-(2-hydroxyethyl)-N-methylamino]-5-methoxy]  
benzylsulfinyl]benzimidazole;
- 5 2-(5-benzyl-4-chloro-6-methyl-2-pyrimidinyl)  
methylthio-1H-benzimidazole;
- 5-carboethoxy-6-methyl-2-(((3-methyl-2-  
pyridyl)methyl)sulfinyl)-1H-benzimidazole;
- 5-(2-benzimidazolylsulfinylmethyl)-3,4-dihydro-  
10 4-methyl-2H-1,4-benzoxazine;
- 2-(3-methyl-4-(2-(N-benzyl-N-methylamino)ethoxy-2-  
pyridyl)methylsulfinyl)-1H-benzimidazole;
- 2-(3-methyl-4-(2-(1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinolin-  
2-yl)-ethoxy)-2-pyridyl)methylsulfinyl-1H-  
15 benzimidazole;
- 2-[1-(3,5-dimethylpyrazolyl)]  
methylthiobenzimidazole;
- 2-(3-chloro-4-methoxy-2-picolythio)-5-methoxy-1H-  
benzimidazole;
- 20 2-(4-(2-ethoxyethoxy)-3-methyl-2-pyridyl)  
methylsulfinyl-1H-benzimidazole;
- 2-(3-methylthieno(2,3-c)pyridin-7-yl)  
methylsulfinyl)-benzimidazole;
- 2-(2-dimethylamino-5-methoxybenzylsulfinyl)-5-  
25 methoxy-benzimidazole;
- 2-(2-dimethylamino-5-methylbenzylsulfinyl)-5-  
methoxybenzimidazole;
- 2-[4-(2,3,5-trimethyl)pyridylthio]-5-  
methoxybenzimidazole;
- 30 2-[(2-(4-chlorophenyl)-5-methylimidazol-4-  
yl)methylthio]benzimidazole;
- 2-(5-hydroxy-1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinylmethyl)-  
N,N-dimethylbenzenamine;
- 2-((6-methoxyisoquinolin-1-yl)methylsulfinyl)  
35 benzimidazole;
- 3-(5-methoxy-1H-benzimidazol-2-  
yl)thiomethylcarbostyryl;

- 5-methoxy-2-(4-dimethylamino-5-fluoro-2-pyridylmethylsulfinyl)-1H-benzimidazole;  
 2-(2-dimethylaminobenzylsulfinyl)-5-cyclopropylmethoxybenzimidazole;  
 5 2-(3,5-dimethyl-2-pyridylmethylsulfinyl)-5-cyclopropylmethoxy-benzimidazole;  
 2-[2-(N-cyclohexyl-N-methylamino)benzylsulfonyl]benzimidazole;  
 8-(5-fluoro-6-methoxy-2-benzimidazolyl)sulfinylmethyl-1-ethyl-4-(N-methyl-N-allyl)amino-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroquinoline;  
 10 2-(2-benzoyloxycarbonylaminobenzylthio)benzimidazole;  
 2-(2-benzimidazolylmethylthio)pyrimidine;  
 15 5-acetyl-2-((2-dimethylaminobenzyl)sulfinyl)benzimidazole;  
 2-((3,5-dimethyl-4-methoxy-2-pyridyl)methylsulfinyl)-5-fluoro-1H-benzimidazole;  
 2-(3-pyridylmethylthio)-5-methoxybenzimidazole;  
 20 2-(2-methylaminobenzylsulfinyl)benzimidazole;  
 5-methoxy-2-(2-dimethylaminobenzylsulfinyl)-1H-benzimidazole;  
 2-(3,4-dimethoxypyrid-2-ylmethylsulfinyl)-5-trifluoromethyl-benzimidazole;  
 25 5-methoxy-2-(4-piperidino-2-pyrimidinylmethylsulfinyl)-(1H)-benzimidazole;  
 2-[2-(4-benzoyloxy)-pyridylmethylsulfinyl]benzimidazole;  
 4-allyloxy-8-(2-benzimidazolyl)thio-3-methyl-  
 30 5,6,7,8-tetrahydroquinoline;  
 2-[2-(4-methoxy-5-n-pentyl)-pyridylmethylthio]benzimidazole;  
 2-(5-bromo-4-piperidino-2-pyridylmethylsulfinyl)-5-methoxy-(1H)-benzimidazole;  
 35 2-((3,5-dimethyl-4-morpholinopyrid-2-yl)methylsulfinyl)benzimidazole;  
 2-((2-pyridinylmethyl)sulfinyl)-1H-benzimidazole-1-

methanol;  
2-((3,4-dihydro-2H-thieno(3,2-c)pyridinylmethyl)  
thio)-1H-benzimidazole-1-methanol;  
2-(4-isopropoxy-2-pyridyl)  
5 methylsulfinylbenzimidazole;  
2-((4-fluorobenzyloxy-3-methyl-2-pyridyl)  
methylsulfinyl)benzimidazole;  
2-(2-aminobenzylsulfinyl)-benzimidazole;  
N,N-dimethyl-2-(1H-benzimidazol-2-yl-  
10 sulfinylmethyl)benzenamine;  
2-[(4,5-dimethoxy-2-pyridyl)methylsulfinyl]-5-  
trifluoromethoxy-1H-benzimidazole;  
2-((4-morpholinyl-3-ethylpyridin-2-ylmethyl)  
sulfinyl)-5-trifluoromethylbenzimidazole;  
15 2-((4-methoxy-2-pyridyl)methylsulfinyl)-5-  
trifluoromethoxy-1H-benzimidazole;  
5-cyclopropylcarbonyl-2-((4-methoxy-2-pyridyl)  
methyl-sulfinyl)-1H-benzimidazole;  
2-[2-(3,5-dimethyl-4-methoxy)-pyridyl  
20 methylsulfinyl]-(5-chloro)-benzimidazole;  
2-[2-(4,5-dimethyl)-pyridylmethylsulfinyl]-(5-  
acetyl-6-methyl)-benzimidazole;  
2-[2-(3,5-dimethyl)pyridylmethylsulfinyl]5-fluoro-  
benzoxazole;  
25 3-[(4-dimethylamino-2-pyridyl)methylthio]indole;  
6-benzoylamino-7-chloro-2-((3,5-dimethyl-4-  
methoxy-2-pyridyl)-methyl)thio)benzothiazole;  
5-(4,5-dihydro-2-oxazolyl)-2-((3,5-dimethyl-4-  
methoxy-2-pyridyl)methylthio)-1H-  
30 benzimidazole;  
2-gernaylthio-benzimidazole;  
ethyl 2-((1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)-sulfinylmethyl)-4-  
dimethylamino-5-pyrimidinecarboxylate;  
2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)  
35 methyl]benzenamine;  
2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]N,N-  
dimethylbenzenamine;



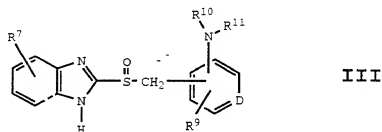


2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-4-methoxy-  
3,5-dimethylbenzenamine;  
2-[[ (5-methyl-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)sulfinyl]-  
methyl]benzenamine;  
5 2-[[ (5-chloro-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)sulfinyl]-  
methyl]benzenamine;  
2-[[ (5-ethoxy-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)sulfinyl]-  
methyl]benzenamine;  
2-[[[(5-(trifluoromethyl)-1H-benzimidazol-2-  
yl)sulfinyl)methyl]benzenamine;  
10 2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-4-  
(trifluoromethyl)benzenamine;  
2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-4-  
butylbenzenamine; .  
15 2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-5,6-  
dimethylbenzenamine;  
2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-3,6-  
dimethylbenzenamine;  
2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-4-chloro-  
20 6-methylbenzenamine;  
2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-4-chloro-6-  
methoxy-3-methylbenzenamine;  
2-[[ (5-ethoxy-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)sulfinyl]-  
methyl]-4-methylbenzenamine;  
25 2-[[ (5-methyl-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)sulfinyl]-  
methyl]-5,6-dimethylbenzenamine;  
2-[[[(5-(trifluoromethyl)-1H-benzimidazol-2-  
yl)sulfinyl]-3,6-dimethylbenzenamine;  
2-[[[(5-(trifluoromethyl)-1H-benzimidazol-2-  
30 yl)sulfinyl)methyl]-6-methoxybenzenamine;  
methyl 2-amino-3-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)  
methyl]benzoate;  
ethyl 4-amino-3-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-  
ylsulfinyl)methyl]benzoate;  
35 ethyl 4-amino-3-[(5-methoxy-1H-benzimidazol-2-  
yl)sulfinyl)methyl]benzoate;

- 2-[[5,6-dimethoxy-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)sulfinyl)methyl]-4-methylbenzenamine;  
2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-4-fluorobenzenamine;  
5 2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-3,4,5-trimethylbenzenamine;  
2-[(5-methoxy-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)sulfinyl)methyl]-4-methoxy-3,5-dimethylbenzenamine;  
3-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]benzenamine;  
10 3-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-2-pyridinamine;  
3-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-N,N-dimethyl-2-pyridinamine;  
15 6-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-2-pyridinamine;  
6-[(4-methyl-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)sulfinyl)methyl]-2-pyridinamine;  
6-[(5-methyl-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)sulfinyl)methyl]-2-pyridinamine;  
20 6-[(5-methoxy-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)sulfinyl)methyl]-2-pyridinamine;  
6-[(5-chloro-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)sulfinyl)methyl]-2-pyridinamine;  
25 6-[[5-(trifluoromethyl)-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)sulfinyl)methyl]-2-pyridinamine;  
6-[(5-ethoxy-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)sulfinyl)methyl]-2-pyridinamine;  
6-[(5,6-dimethoxy-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)sulfinyl)methyl]-2-pyridinamine;  
30 6-[(5,6-dimethyl-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)sulfinyl)methyl]-2-pyridinamine;  
6-[(4,6-dimethyl-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)sulfinyl)methyl]-2-pyridinamine;  
35 6-[[5-(hydroxymethyl)-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)sulfinyl)methyl]-2-pyridinamine;

- 6-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-N-(2,2-dimethylpropyl)-2-pyridinamine;  
 6-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-N-ethyl-2-pyridinamine; and  
 5 5-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-2-pyridinamine.

14. A method of inhibiting a viral protease, said method comprising treating said  
 10 subject with an effective amount of a compound of Formula III



- 15 wherein D is N or CH;  
 wherein R<sup>7</sup> is one or more radicals selected from hydrido, alkoxy, amino, cyano, nitro, hydroxyl, alkyl, halo, haloalkyl, carboxyl, alkanoyl, nitro, amino, alkylamino, amide,  
 20 alkylamide, alkoxycarbonyl, alkylthio, alkylsulfinyl and alkylsulfonyl;  
 wherein R<sup>9</sup> is one or more radicals selected from hydrido, alkoxy, amino, alkyl, halo, cyano, nitro, hydroxyl, haloalkyl, carboxyl,  
 25 alkanoyl, nitro, amide, alkylamide, alkoxycarbonyl, alkylthio, alkylsulfinyl and alkylsulfonyl; and  
 wherein R<sup>10</sup> and R<sup>11</sup> are independently selected from hydrido and alkyl;  
 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt  
 30 thereof.

15. Method of Claim 14 wherein R<sup>7</sup> is one or more radicals selected from hydrido, lower

alkoxy, amino, cyano, nitro, hydroxyl, lower alkyl, halo, lower haloalkyl, carboxyl, lower alkanoyl, lower alkylamino, amide, lower alkylamide, lower alkoxy carbonyl, lower alkylthio, lower alkylsulfinyl and lower alkylsulfonyl; wherein R<sup>9</sup> is one or more radicals selected from hydrido, lower alkoxy, amino, lower alkyl, halo, cyano, nitro, hydroxyl, lower haloalkyl, carboxyl, lower alkanoyl, lower alkylamino, amide, lower alkylamide, lower alkoxy carbonyl, lower alkylthio, lower alkylsulfinyl and lower alkylsulfonyl; and wherein R<sup>10</sup> and R<sup>11</sup> are independently selected from hydrido and lower alkyl; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

16. Method of Claim 15 wherein R<sup>7</sup> is one or more radicals selected from hydrido, methoxy, ethoxy, propoxy, butoxy, isopropoxy, tert-butoxy, amino, cyano, nitro, hydroxyl, methyl, ethyl, propyl, butyl, pentyl, isopropyl, isobutyl, tert-butyl, fluoro, chloro, bromo, iodo, fluoromethyl, difluoromethyl, trifluoromethyl, dichloromethyl, trichloromethyl, pentafluoroethyl, heptafluoropropyl, difluorochloromethyl, dichlorofluoromethyl, difluoroethyl, difluoropropyl, dichloroethyl, dichloropropyl, carboxyl, formyl, acetyl, propionyl, N-methylamino, N-ethylamino, N-propylamino, N-butylamino, N-tert-butylamino, N-pentylamino, N-hexylamino, N,N-dimethylamino, amide, N-methylamide, N,N-dimethylamide, methoxycarbonyl, ethoxycarbonyl, isopropoxycarbonyl, tert-butoxycarbonyl, propoxycarbonyl, n-butylcarbonyl, isobutoxycarbonyl, pentoxycarbonyl, methylthio, methylsulfinyl and methylsulfonyl;

wherein R<sup>9</sup> is one or more radicals selected from hydrido, methoxy, ethoxy, propoxy,

- butoxy, isopropoxy, tert-butoxy, amino, methyl, ethyl, propyl, butyl, pentyl, isopropyl, isobutyl, tert-butyl, fluoro, chloro, bromo, iodo, cyano, nitro, hydroxyl, fluoromethyl, difluoromethyl, trifluoromethyl, dichloromethyl, trichloromethyl, pentafluoroethyl, heptafluoropropyl, difluorochloromethyl, dichlorofluoromethyl, difluoroethyl, difluoropropyl, dichloroethyl, dichloropropyl, carboxyl, formyl, acetyl, propionyl, N-methylamino, N-ethylamino, N-propylamino, N-butylamino, N-tert-butylamino, N-pentylamino, N-hexylamino, N,N-dimethylamino, amide, N-methylamide, N,N-dimethylamide, methoxycarbonyl, ethoxycarbonyl, isopropoxycarbonyl, tert-butoxycarbonyl, propoxycarbonyl, n-butoxycarbonyl, isobutoxycarbonyl, pentoxycarbonyl, methylthio, methylsulfinyl and methylsulfonyl; and
- wherein R<sup>10</sup> and R<sup>11</sup> are independently selected from hydrido, methyl, ethyl, propyl, butyl, pentyl, isopropyl, isobutyl and tert-butyl; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

17. Method of Claim 16 selected from compounds, and their pharmaceutically acceptable salts, of the group selected from:

- 2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]benzenamine;
- 2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]N,N-dimethylbenzenamine;
- N-[2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]phenyl]acetamide;
- 2-[(4-methyl-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)sulfinyl)methyl]benzenamine;

- 2-[[ (5,6-dimethyl-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)sulfinyl)methyl]benzenamine;  
2-[[ (5-methoxy-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)sulfinyl)methyl]benzenamine;  
5 methyl 2-[[ (2-aminophenyl)methyl)sulfinyl]-5-methoxy-1H-benzimidazole-6-carboxylate;  
2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-4-chlorobenzenamine;  
2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-5-chlorobenzenamine;  
10 2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-4-methoxybenzenamine;  
2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-6-methoxybenzenamine;  
15 2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-3-methylbenzenamine;  
2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-4-methylbenzenamine;  
2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-6-methylbenzenamine;  
20 2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-4,6-dimethylbenzenamine;  
2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-N-methylbenzenamine;  
25 2-[[ (5-methoxy-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)sulfinyl)methyl]-4-methylbenzenamine;  
2-[[ (5-methoxy-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)sulfinyl)methyl]-6-methylbenzenamine;  
2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-4-ethylbenzenamine;  
30 2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-6-ethylbenzenamine;  
2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-4-methoxy-3,5-dimethylbenzenamine;  
35 2-[[ (5-methyl-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)sulfinyl)methyl]benzenamine;

- 2-[[ (5-chloro-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)sulfinyl]-  
methyl]benzenamine;
- 2-[[ (5-ethoxy-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)sulfinyl]-  
methyl]benzenamine;
- 5 2-[[[ (5-(trifluoromethyl)-1H-benzimidazol-2-  
yl)sulfinyl]methyl]benzenamine;
- 2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-4-  
(trifluoromethyl)benzenamine;
- 2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-4-  
10 butylbenzenamine;
- 2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-5,6-  
dimethylbenzenamine;
- 2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-3,6-  
dimethylbenzenamine;
- 15 2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-4-chloro-  
6-methylbenzenamine;
- 2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-4-chloro-6-  
methoxy-3-methylbenzenamine;
- 2-[[ (5-ethoxy-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)sulfinyl]-  
methyl]-4-methylbenzenamine;
- 20 2-[[ (5-methyl-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)sulfinyl]-  
methyl]-5,6-dimethylbenzenamine;
- 2-[[[ (5-(trifluoromethyl)-1H-benzimidazol-2-  
yl)sulfinyl]-3,6-dimethylbenzenamine;
- 25 2-[[[ (5-(trifluoromethyl)-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl]  
sulfinyl]methyl]-6-methoxybenzenamine;
- methyl 2-amino-3-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-  
ylsulfinyl)methyl]benzoate;
- ethyl 4-amino-3-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-  
ylsulfinyl)methyl]benzoate;
- 30 ethyl 4-amino-3-[[ (5-methoxy-1H-benzimidazol-2-  
yl)sulfinyl]methyl]benzoate;
- 2-[[5,6-dimethoxy-1H-benzimidazol-2-  
yl)sulfinyl]methyl]-4-methylbenzenamine;
- 35 2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-4-  
fluorobenzenamine;

- 2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-3,4,5-trimethylbenzenamine;
- 2-[(5-methoxy-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)sulfinyl]methyl]-4-methoxy-3,5-dimethylbenzenamine;
- 5 3-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]benzenamine;
- 3-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-2-pyridinamine;
- 3-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-N,N-dimethyl-2-pyridinamine;
- 10 6-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-2-pyridinamine;
- 6-[(4-methyl-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)sulfinyl]methyl]-2-pyridinamine;
- 15 6-[(5-methyl-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)sulfinyl]methyl]-2-pyridinamine;
- 6-[(5-methoxy-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)sulfinyl]methyl]-2-pyridinamine;
- 6-[(5-chloro-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)sulfinyl]methyl]-2-pyridinamine;
- 20 6-[[5-(trifluoromethyl)-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)sulfinyl]methyl]-2-pyridinamine;
- 6-[(5-ethoxy-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)sulfinyl]methyl]-2-pyridinamine;
- 25 6-[(5,6-dimethoxy-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)sulfinyl]methyl]-2-pyridinamine;
- 6-[(5,6-dimethyl-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)sulfinyl]methyl]-2-pyridinamine;
- 6-[(4,6-dimethyl-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)sulfinyl]methyl]-2-pyridinamine;
- 30 6-[[5-(hydroxymethyl)-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)sulfinyl]methyl]-2-pyridinamine;
- 6-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-N-(2,2-dimethylpropyl)-2-pyridinamine;
- 35 6-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-N-ethyl-2-pyridinamine; and



5-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-2-pyridinamine.

18. Method of Claim 14 wherein the viral  
5 protease is a herpesvirus protease.

19. Method of Claim 18 wherein the viral protease is a CMV protease.

10                    20. Method of Claim 19 wherein the viral  
protease is a CMV protease, encoded by U<sub>L</sub>80.